Mount Saint Mary's University | Los Angeles

mount

magazine

fall/winter 2019

Unstoppable

It's more than just a tagline. It's how our students define themselves.

Doing is learning: The Makerspace movement on campus

Gift to the world: Alum talks about why she gives to the Mount

Looking back: Nursing program celebrates 70th anniversary

from the president

With still more than a year to go, I am proud to announce that we have exceeded our campaign fundraising goal of $100 million! To date, we have raised more than $101.5 million. We will not stop there, however. We will continue the campaign into 2020 as planned, raising more funds to support educational excellence, student scholarships and our wellness movement. We are so grateful for the generosity of our alumnae, friends and foundation partners who continue to support our efforts. Together we are building the bright future our students deserve.

It has been almost five years since our transition to a University and our students continue to be unstoppable. We have heard them say, "I feel unstoppable. There's a fire in me." Mount Saint Mary's draws out their confidence, nurtures their can-do spirit, and pushes them to grow intellectually, emotionally and spiritually. If they didn't think they were unstoppable when they first stepped on campus, they realize it during their time at the Mount.

We want the world to know about our students. This fall, we will embark on a visibility campaign that will reinforce awareness of the University throughout Los Angeles and in the digital landscape. We will highlight our accomplishments, innovative academic programs, and our commitment to service, leadership and social justice. We will put the spotlight on our students who embody our spirit, who are smart and determined.

Our new strategic plan will reflect this momentum. With the involvement of the entire Mount community, we are in the process of defining our goals and strategies for the next five years and beyond. We have many exciting opportunities ahead to be innovative as we adapt in this environment of rapid change in higher education.

We will continue to build a future that our students deserve. Together, we are unstoppable.

Sincerely,

Ann McElaney-Johnson

Mount Saint Mary's University | Los Angeles

mount

magazine

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ABOUT US
Mount Saint Mary's is the only women's university in Los Angeles and one of the most diverse in the nation. The University is known nationally for its research on gender equity, its innovative health and science programs, and its commitment to community service. As a leading liberal arts institution, Mount Saint Mary's provides year-round, flexible and online programs at the undergraduate and graduate level. Weekend, evening and graduate programs are offered to both women and men. Mount alums are engaged, active, global citizens who use their knowledge and skills to better themselves, their communities and the world. msmu.edu

Mount Saint Mary's University is a diverse community committed to providing an environment that is free from discrimination on the basis of any characteristic protected by federal, state or local law, ordinance or regulation.

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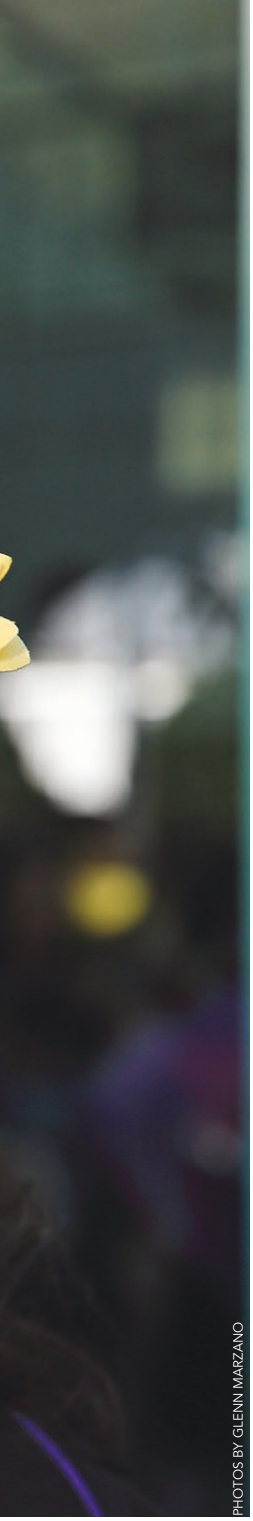
GEORGIA AGUILAR '20 AT THE CHALON CAMPUS FIRE TRAIL. PHOTO BY WATCHARA PHOMICINDA.

CREATIVITY ON DISPLAY
With designs ranging from humorous to heart-warming, the Class of 2019 proudly displayed messages of pride, gratitude and inspiration on their graduation caps.



PHOTOS BY GLENN MARZANO

CAPPING AN AMAZING JOURNEY FOR THE CLASS OF 2019

◀ Mount Saint Mary's celebrated the Class of 2019 during commencement ceremonies on May 6 at the Los Angeles Convention Center. The University featured two commencement speakers that day: Abby Maxman, president and CEO of Oxfam America, for the undergraduate ceremony; and Kay Buck, CEO and executive director of the Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (CAST), for the graduate ceremony.

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Maxman told the Class of 2019, "I stand here in awe of the University's culture of innovation for excellence and commitment to social good that seeks to prepare students to be global leaders and pursue lives filled with purpose. You don't just stand on the sidelines. You get involved. You reach out and pay it forward. You speak up and make a difference in the world."

Buck implored the Class of 2019 to "dream the impossible." She said, "Today I am filled with so much hope for your futures. And if you do decide to continue your journey for social justice, I'm filled with hope for our world. Commit to your journey relentlessly. Be resilient. And unstoppable."

◀ During commencement ceremonies, the University traditionally presents the Carondelet Medal, the highest honor given by the Mount. The recipient of this year's Carondelet Medal was Genevieve Castellanos Denault '53, who had a distinguished career as a research chemist, medical technician and aerospace consultant. After graduating in 1953 with a bachelor's degree in chemistry and a minor in medical technology, she began working as a research chemist, a profession into which few women had ventured. She went on to work first at Hughes Aircraft, then spent the next 30 years at the Aerospace Corporation, where her forensics lab work led her all the way to Scotland Yard. In 1976, Denault was honored by the Aerospace Corporation as Woman of the Year for her superior contributions to her profession and her community. She has served on the Mount's Regents Council for over 20 years.

AT A GLANCE

732

students from the Class of 2019 earned their associate and bachelor's degrees.

238

students received master's degrees.

> "I aim to make progress. To move forward. To be unstoppable, just as the Mount has prepared us."
>
> — Natalie Moore '19, who received her bachelor of arts degree in psychology and served as one of the student speakers during commencement.

ALUM AMONG NEW TRUSTEES THIS YEAR

The Mount welcomes four new trustees to the board this year, including an alumna and a CSJ.

Alejandra Ceja '96 is the former executive director of the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics. She currently serves as the executive director of the Panasonic Foundation. She earned her first position in Washington, D.C., working in the White House Office of Management and Budget, less than three years after earning her bachelor's degree in political science from Mount Saint Mary's.

Alejandra Ceja '96

Elizabeth Casey

Elizabeth Casey is an executive vice president at the Fox Networks Group. She is responsible for standards and practices and commercial clearances for cable networks, in addition to the Fox Broadcasting Company.

Alison Sowden

Alison Sowden is the vice president and chief financial officer for the Los Angeles Philharmonic. She has also served as chief financial officer for the Huntington Library and Art Gallery, and the executive vice president and CFO for the Art Institute of Chicago.

Sr. Joan Lescinski

Sr. Joan Lescinski, CSJ, PhD, serves as president of St. Ambrose University. Prior to that, she served as president of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College, then the oldest Catholic liberal arts women's college in the country.

FILM PROGRAM ONE OF BEST IN THE WORLD

▲ In its annual Entertainment Education Report, Variety included Mount Saint Mary's in its exclusive list of best film schools for 2019. The Mount joins prestigious educational institutions with innovative film programs such as Columbia University, Stanford University, UC Berkeley, USC, University of Michigan and Yale University, among others. Factors such as cutting-edge instruction, a multi-ethnic approach to the curriculum, and fearlessness to disrupt the entertainment industry were included in determining which institutions were included in this year's list.

The Mount offers a bachelor of arts in Film and Media and a bachelor of science in Film, Media & Social Justice, as well as a master of fine arts in Film, Television and Photography.

PHOTO BY KIM FOX

CHEMISTRY MAJORS IN THEIR ELEMENT

▼ Mount Saint Mary's hosted nearly 200 students from universities across the region for the Southern California Undergraduate Research Conference in Chemistry and Biochemistry held at the Chalon Campus on April 13. Twenty-eight students from Mount Saint Mary's presented on 14 different research projects.

"This conference has always provided a very positive environment for our students," said Professor Eric Stemp, PhD, Loring-Denault Endowed Chair in Chemistry. "The Mount has been an active participant in this spring conference for decades, so it was wonderful for us to have the opportunity to host this conference and give back to our local scientific community."

The conference featured Mount alum Sarah Cruz '15 as a guest speaker. Cruz, who received a bachelor of science in biochemistry from the Mount, now works as a planetary protection engineer on the Mars 2020 Project at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

The Mount's former provost, Professor Emeritus Eleanor Siebert, PhD, gave an introduction extolling the values of undergraduate research. Stemp followed with remarks about the conference sponsor, Genevieve Denault '53.

MSMU PRESIDENT RECEIVES COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD

▲ President Ann McElaney-Johnson received the Community Impact Award from the Mexican American Bar Foundation (MABF) in June for her commitment to creating more equity in Los Angeles.

Under McElaney-Johnson's leadership, MSMU was ranked by the New York Times as the No. 1 college for overall mobility compared to hundreds of other selected private colleges in the nation.

"I am truly moved. I accept this incredible honor on behalf of the students and graduates of Mount Saint Mary's University who make an impact on this community every single day," said McElaney-Johnson. "I am so humbled by our students' determination and their perseverance. We are not just educating students to graduate. We are preparing them to be unstoppable leaders in their communities."

In addition to McElaney-Johnson's honor, the MABF awarded Mount alum Karla Ballesteros '16 with the Steven Espinoza Immigration Scholarship to be used during her final year of law school. Scholarship recipients were chosen based on academic achievement, community service, financial need and personal experiences.

PHOTO BY GLENN MARZANO

COLLEGE RANKINGS PUT MSMU AT THE TOP

◀ Mount Saint Mary's is one of the top 30 best colleges in California. The list, curated by Learn.org, includes more than 200 four-year public and private nonprofit colleges and universities in the state "that offered a variety of student services and activities, a diverse campus, high-quality educational programs in many fields of study … and unique features like research collaborations between students and faculty." Learn.org selected the top 30 schools based on tuition, graduation rate and student retention.

The Mount also has one of the best nursing programs for veterans in the nation and in California, according to College Factual. The Mount ranks No. 25 in the nation for veteran friendliness among the 523 colleges and universities reviewed by the higher-education insights firm. And for the second year in row, MSMU is No. 2 in California when it comes to offering a quality education to veterans studying nursing. College Factual's rankings were developed to highlight institutions that provide outstanding post-graduation outcomes and resources to veterans and active-duty military students.

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY PROGRAM WELCOMES FIRST COHORT OF STUDENTS

The first cohort of students in the new Clinical Psychology (PsyD) doctoral program started this fall, commencing a full-time, five-year graduate program designed to prepare them for a career providing professional psychological services to Spanish-speaking and other diverse populations.

This is the second doctorate offered at the Mount, along with the Doctor of Physical Therapy program. The PsyD program offers two specializations with a strong social justice focus: Latinx Mental Health, and Diverse Populations.

MSMU STORYTELLER CATCHES EYE OF NIKON SCHOLARSHIP JUDGES

Terri Griffin '21 MFA has been awarded a $10,000 scholarship from Nikon for her remarkable creative abilities. Griffin, an MFA in Film, Television & Photography student, was among the ten finalists selected to receive the 2019-2020 Nikon Storytellers Scholarship.

The award recognizes students that are making advances in creative content production, in celebration of the next generation of visual storytellers. Griffin's academic performance and portfolio submission stood out to a panel of judges consisting of industry professionals, creatives and Nikon Ambassadors.

Capping ceremony in 1954

NURSING PROGRAM CELEBRATES 70 YEARS

▲ This year, the Mount marks the 70th anniversary of our traditional baccalaureate nursing program. In 1949, the University formally launched a bachelor of science in nursing (BSN) degree, addressing a postwar need for better trained nurses whose training had deeper grounding in the sciences. Three years later, the Mount conferred its first BSN degree.

Nursing alums will be honored during this year's Homecoming & Reunions celebration on Oct. 19. For more information about the event, visit alums.msmu.edu or go to Page 28.

>> READ MORE: The race to claim "first BSN" fame on Page 29.

SHIFTING NARRATIVES ON SURVIVORS

In April, Mount Saint Mary's hosted "Shifting Narratives: The Strength of Women Survivors," an art exhibit portraying the strength of women who survive homelessness, domestic violence and human trafficking, conceived by L.A. Mayor Eric Garcetti and Jackie Filla, PhD, MSMU associate professor of political science and president of the Los Angeles City Commission on the Status of Women. It sought to promote greater understanding and support for the services these women desperately need.

"We didn't want to portray these women as victims," says Filla. "We wanted to highlight their stories of survival and success and say, 'Look at the spirit that came out of this.'"

The project was first designed for display on the bridge at City Hall in March during Women's History Month, after which the entire exhibit was brought to the Mount's José Drudis-Biada Art Gallery in April. A public call for entries went out to nonprofit service providers throughout the city. Filla brought in Jody Baral, chair of the art department at the Mount to lend his expertise in exhibit design.

The exhibit was comprised of many different modes of visual expression, including photographs, mosaic, collages and paintings. Some of the art was created by practicing artists, and some was made through art therapy programs. All of the pieces displayed at the Mount were accompanied by written stories of struggle and hope from each artist.

"It was very powerful," says Baral. "The University should be proud of its partnership with the Mayor's office and that it gives voice to these women."

PHOTOS BY DEBBIE REAM

▲ Travelers from the Mount's pilgrimage trip to France gather at Saint Michel d'Aiguilhe (St. Michael of the Needle) in Le Puy in June.

▶ Joining President Ann McElaney-Johnson in the blessing of Mother St. John Fontbonne's house are, from left, trustees Sister Annette Debs, CSJ, Board Chair Tom Blumenthal, Sister Pat Rosholt, CSJ, and Sister Sandra Williams, CSJ.

FONTBONNE HOME BLESSED DURING THIS YEAR'S PILGRIMAGE TRIP TO FRANCE

A year after a rapid series of negotiations to purchase the birthplace of Mother St. John Fontbonne in Bas-en-Basset, France, the home was blessed in a ceremony on June 26 by Mount Saint Mary's President Ann McElaney-Johnson and others.

The group of 25 participating in this year's MSMU pilgrimage trip following the footsteps and history of the Sisters of St. Joseph included: Tom Blumenthal, Chair of the MSMU Board of Trustees; Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet; several faculty and staff from MSMU, Carondelet High School, Concord, California, Academy of Our Lady of Peace, San Diego, California; MSMU alum Jane Nadeau '98, on her second pilgrimage; and Sisters and Associates from St. Louis, Missouri, and Lewiston, Idaho.

Also participating in the blessing were Sister Catherine Barage, Superior General, and Sister M. Line Rioux, member of the Leadership Council, of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Lyon, France. They read a blessing poem, "Fontbonne Woman." The ceremony concluded with a Sprinkling Rite and Sending Forth with all participants.

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Following the blessing, the group was hosted at a special reception by Bas-en-Basset Mayor Gilles David, and all joined in fellowship at a luncheon in the Fontbonne House garden.

The house will serve as a welcoming space for pilgrims, a study place for faculty and students, and a destination for students seeking an international experience.

"Mother St. John Fontbonne stands as a cornerstone of the foundation of our history," said McElaney-Johnson. "Knowing her, we understand better the lives and love of the sisters who have followed her."

accolades

FACULTY

Emerald Archer, PhD, director of the Center for the Advancement of Women, was one of the honorees of Comerica Bank Women's Business Awards Program, which recognizes women in leadership and their contributions to the community. The award was presented at the Los Angeles Lakers game on March 26.

▲ A team from Mount Saint Mary's presented at the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in Higher Education in June in Portland, Ore. **Chinako Belanger**, associate director for Residence Life, **Robin Bishop**, PhD, chair of the psychology department, and **Kimberly Nao**, PhD, Fritz B. Burns Endowed Chair of Education, discussed "Mitigating the Gap in Cultural Competency: Addressing LGBTQIA+ Inclusion, Equity, and Access on College Campuses."

Paula Helu-Brown, PhD, assistant professor of psychology, **Julie Jackson**, PsyD, assistant professor of psychology, and **Jocelyn Chong**, PhD, director of the Title V Postbaccalaureate Project and the Professional and Academic Resource Center, presented "Próximos Pasos: Building on and Expanding Latinx-Oriented Programs" at the 2019 Alliance of Hispanic Serving Institution Educators conference in April in Riverside, CA. The presentation focused on how Mount Saint Mary's built on the success of its ¡Enlaces! Certificate program to develop a Title V-funded PsyD clinical psychology program with an emphasis on Latinx mental health.

▲ Mount Saint Mary's was well represented at the June gathering of the Association of Colleges of Sisters of St. Joseph at Regis College. Mount professors **Michelle Melendres**, PhD, and **Evelyn Oyuela-Kowalski**, PhD, had the opportunity to reflect on the Catholic and CSJ traditions in teaching and scholarship. President **Ann McElaney-Johnson**, PhD, and center directors **Shannon Green** and **Kim Middleton**, PhD, shared our experience integrating the "Spirit of the Founders" across the University community.

The New York Times published an essay by **JoAnna Novak**, assistant professor in the MFA in Creative Writing program. The piece, "Coping with a Dieting Relative When You're a Recovering Anorexic," appeared online on March 14.

Montserrat Reguant, PhD, professor and chair of the Department of Language and Culture, presented a selection of her work, entitled "If the Inns were Inns of Court," at the 31st annual Cervantes Symposium of California at Cal State Northridge in April. She specializes in peninsular literature in comparative contexts. Her current research focuses on Cervantes and Bacon.

STUDENTS

A research group led by **Luiza Nogaj**, PhD, professor of biological sciences, and Loyola Marymount University professor David A. Moffett published "Amyloidogenicity of Naturally Occurring Full-Length Animal IAPP Variants" in June in the Journal of Peptide Science. Mount biology majors **Alissa Oakes '19, Arleen Lamba '20, Jaris Torres '19**, **Litza I. Ledesma Monjaraz '19** and **Crystabel Munoz '19** collaborated with students from LMU on the research.

Social work majors presented results of their research with Michelle Melendres, PhD, director of the Honors Program, at the WASC Senior College and University Commission Academic Resource Conference in April. Their presentations covered topics on preparing undergraduates for professional development, the benefits of experiential learning, and realigning an academic program for professional accreditation.

▲ Honors Scholars presented their research at the Western Regional Honors Council Conference at Montana State University in March. Over 300 faculty and students from 45 different colleges and universities all over the western region gave presentations during the conference, which celebrates the work of high-achieving undergraduate honors students of all academic backgrounds.

Abdulhamid Banafa '19 DPT received two awards from the American Physical Therapy Association. He received the Minority Student Physical Therapist Scholarship, awarded for a student's exemplary academic record, contributions to minority affairs and services, and potential for superior achievements in the profession of physical therapy. He was also honored with the Societal Impact Award.

PROFESSOR PROFILE: MICHELLE MELENDRES '03, EdD

Paying inspiration forward

By Sarah Scopio

MICHELLE MELENDRES '03, EdD, INSPIRES STUDENTS to pursue their dreams, as Mount professors once did for her. As an associate professor of social work and director of the Honors Program, she leads an international social work course that has traveled around the globe studying social welfare policies in foreign countries.

Q: What kind of student is in the Honors Program at the Mount?
A: Honors Scholars are the epitome of unstoppable students. They truly reflect their love for learning. I am inspired by working with students who take their education seriously and enjoy it.

Q: Tell us about the Honors Program at Mount Saint Mary's University.
A: This year, there are 60 Honors Scholars in the program. It's a robust program that reflects best practices in honors education across the nation – one that can recruit and retain high-achieving students at the University. Honors Scholars have extracurricular requirements, capstone projects and an honors thesis, in addition to co-curricular requirements.

Q: Besides directing the Honors Program, you teach social work courses. Tell us about the international trips you take students on.
A: I teach an international social work class where I take students abroad each year. In 2018, we went to Brazil and Argentina to study the relationship of poverty and privilege (examining the impact of class divisions and inequities in those countries). This year, we traveled to Norway, Denmark and Sweden. Scandinavian countries are known to be among the top five places to live, and it has a lot to do with social welfare policies: maternity leave, healthcare, education, etc. We were able to observe it firsthand.

Q: What does it mean to you to be a professor at your alma mater?
A: First, I'm extremely invested in making sure I keep the legacy going so that when our students graduate, the image people have of the Mount is positive. Also, as a Mount undergraduate, I was mentored in a way that embraced my minority status and the fact that I was a woman. I attended Columbia School of Social Work because a Mount faculty member told me, "I think you should apply to an Ivy League." Somebody did that for me. I came back to the Mount and now it's my job to be that champion for our students. Teachers are your champions. When they believe in you, and push you, it makes all the difference.

PAPER CIRCUIT

One Makerspace project already being integrated into course syllabi or academic workshops is creating low-voltage electrical circuits to enhance designs on paper or cardboard, such as light-up greeting cards.

MAKING IS LEARNING

By Phillip Jordan

The next time you visit the second floor of Coe Memorial Library, don't expect to see any "quiet" signs. This is not your traditional library space. No shushing allowed. Instead, expect to hear a 3D printer churning out new, student-designed prototypes. The rhythmic whirring of woodworking tools. Students discussing their DIY zines featuring poetry, art and design.

Welcome to the Mount Saint Mary's Makerspace.

WHAT IS A MAKERSPACE?

Makerspaces provide hands-on, creative ways to encourage students to design, experiment, build and invent. They are also sometimes called hackerspaces or fablabs.

Among the maker tools that will be available in the Mount Makerspace:

- 3D printer
- Art supplies
- Digital sewing machines
- DIY zine and book arts corner
- Electrical and mechanical instruments
- Hand tools for soldering
- Laser cutter
- Letter press
- Vinyl cutter
- Woodworking tools

Funded by a $350,000 grant from the W.M. Keck Foundation and filled with state-of-the-art equipment, the space is designed to encourage hands-on experimentation and independent learning. The Mount Makerspace will also enable University faculty to add to a woefully thin body of research on how best to engage women and underserved populations in these kinds of innovative spaces.

"Women and people of color are vastly underrepresented in community and professional makerspaces," says Kim Middleton, PhD, former director of Mount Saint Mary's Center for Academic Innovation and Creativity. "For our students, this is an opportunity to become comfortable and capable in these kinds of spaces. They'll be better prepared to play prominent roles in innovative new fields and as entrepreneurs. And they'll be learning skills they can take out into the world."

MAKERSPACE, MOUNT-STYLE

In typical Mount fashion, there are also a couple of twists from the standard makerspace found on many college campuses: First, this is a space run for, and by, Mount students. Media Services student workers are trained on all equipment, so they can help guide other students doing independent maker projects.

Second: At the Mount, students and classes from all areas of study can come and create, from psychology students coming up with new ways to connect with patients to computer science students tinkering with new approaches to robotics.

"When you see these kinds of spaces in most academic settings, they're usually based within a specific department, like engineering, or a STEM discipline or art," says Michele Starkey, EdD, associate provost. "The Mount Makerspace is truly multidisciplinary. We're also embedding Makerspace thinking in our general curriculum,

further enriching our liberal arts approach. It's all about critical thinking and creative problem-solving."

That holistic approach is a proven one. A recent report, "Makerspaces: Highlights of Select Literature," noted: "Ultimately, the interdisciplinary and empowering nature of these makerspaces can help prepare youth for a future we can't yet imagine."

That's exactly what Sylvine Deprele, PhD, sees, too. The associate professor of physical sciences says the borderless nature of the Mount Makerspace means options are limitless when it comes to projects and collaborations. And that, she says, will broaden students' horizons beyond any one particular perspective — a trait that's increasingly crucial to success in a rapidly evolving workforce.

"Doing is learning," says Deprele. "Maker projects demand a higher level of investment from students because they need to create something with their own hands. That motivates and pushes them to accomplish great things. There's really a sense of ownership and pride among students. They get to incorporate their own creativity and interests. And the process challenges them to be more independent and resourceful while still nurturing teamwork."

MAKING IN ACTION

Deprele is one of several professors from different disciplines who started injecting maker logic and maker projects into their classes long before the Mount's new Makerspace opened. Those projects have included: using a 3D printer to create scale models of art pieces; making light-up greeting cards using student-made electrical circuits; generating 3D prototypes in chemistry; transmitting student-created podcasts; creating and testing the design of ceramic-made water filters; and MakerNurse projects.

Aliyah Hughes '19 was one of the students involved in the spring 2019 MakerNurse project, which challenged nursing students to come up with creative solutions to common problems faced by hospital care teams. Her team researched issues around patient and nurse safety when it comes to repositioning patients in bed.

Hughes and her teammates came up with a new design for moving patients. They called it an Air Mover — an inflatable, remote-controlled mattress and assisted device that can automatically move patients every two hours and can vary the mattress pressure from firm to soft as needed.

Other MakerNurse teams came up with new ways to address other hospital issues, such as a new type of glucose testing strip that would be less likely to malfunction or introduce infection; a PeekABaby monitor for families to be able to stay connected to babies that have to be taken to a neonatal intensive care unit; an improved tele-light call system that aids in signaling staff to patient rooms; and an art-and-music immersion experience that could help patients relax before or after an operation.

"It was such an incredible and fun opportunity," Hughes says. "We had to take into account real-world, practical issues that the hospital shared with us and then we applied creative thinking to find a solution. [Maker projects] are a new way to explore your passions and let your intellectual curiosity be stimulated."

Now that the Mount Makerspace is open for business, these kinds of projects have even greater support on campus. Students have more freedom to experiment, and professors have better resources to extend work beyond the classroom or the traditional lab.

"Having a physical space on campus now is so important to keep nurturing the creativity that sprouts in class," Deprele says. "Students can work at their own pace outside the typical classroom environment and be exposed to other creative ideas and possibilities being explored in the space. Here, it's our students who will really own the Makerspace."

EXAMPLES OF MAKERSPACE PROJECTS AT THE MOUNT

LEARNING THROUGH PLAY

Psychology majors and art students collaborated on a museum exhibition that encouraged children to play and learn. The group designed and built the installation pieces.

PEEKABABY NICU MONITOR

A special camera will let parents monitor their babies in the neonatal intensive care unit. Through an app on a smart device, parents can turn on the camera to watch, listen and sing to their babies.

CLAY WATER FILTER

Using different forms of clay, art students created a water filter that can be part of emergency preparedness kits. The process involved firing the clay to a temperature that is not so high as to prevent water from passing through it and yet not so soft that the filter will dissolve.

ZINES

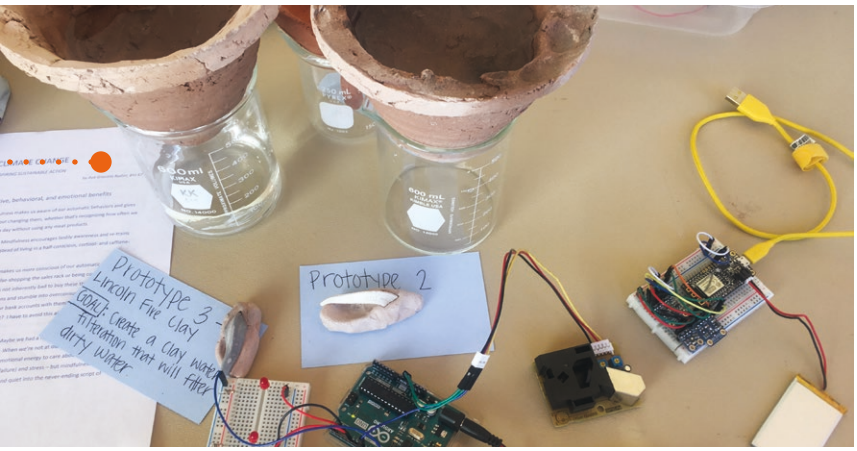
Students exercise their creativity, critical thinking and writing skills through custom-made zines, which are small, self-published and often handmade magazines that promote self-expression and niche narratives.

ART IMMERSION THERAPY

Nursing students designed an app that would provide art therapy for patients with debilitating conditions. Similar to a self-guided museum tour, patients listen to background information on a tablet or mobile phone while looking at a painting in an accompanying book. The app also allows patients to draw or paint, encouraging self-expression.

1

I CAN GROW TO BE
I CAN GROW TO BE
I CAN GROW TO BE


Prototype 2
Prototype 3 -
Lincoln Fire Clay
GOAL: Create a clay water
filtration that will filter
dirty water

Healthy
Say Hello...
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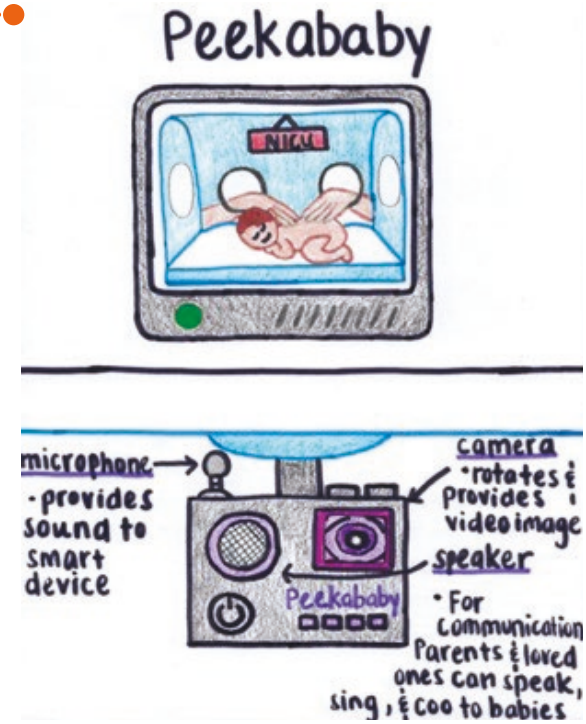
ANGELA DAVIS
Making a Change!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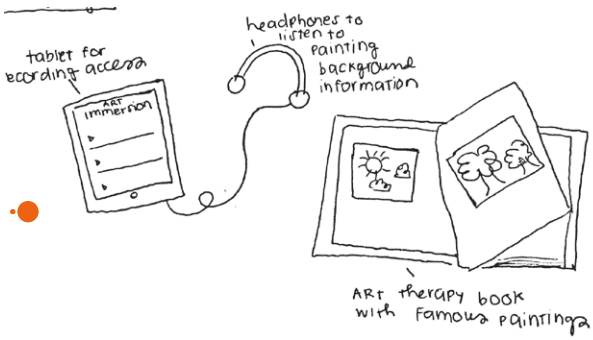
Parents & loved ones can speak, sing, & coo to babies
Peekababy


tablet for recording access
ART Immersion
headphones to listen to painting background information
ART therapy book with famous paintings

UNSTOPPABLE

That word encapsulates Mount Saint Mary's personality. It reflects our students' determination to succeed, our alums' passion for leadership, and the community's commitment to excellence. It draws the next generation of change makers. It inspires, challenges and empowers. It transforms lives.

As we near the five-year anniversary of Mount Saint Mary's transition to a University, we are embarking on a marketing campaign that will showcase our students' unstoppable spirit.

The following pages show some of the faces of the campaign. We asked our students what makes them unstoppable. As one of them says, it's "doing the impossible."

Elizabeth-Victoria Shokoya '19 never gives up. "What makes me unstoppable is the ability to keep trying for something even though I have failed. During my college career I have fallen often but I never let those falls deter me from my goal. I just get up and keep going. Even though things might become difficult and it seems like it is impossible there is always a way to overcome it."

Her professors encouraged her to do things she thought were not meant for her, such as attending graduate school. Now she's dreaming big — after getting her master's degree, she will attend medical school to become a neonatologist.

Biochemistry major, international relations minor
Currently attending USC for a master's in public health

Rocio Cruz '19 knew she made the right choice when she transferred from a public university to major in film and media through the Mount's Weekend/Evening College program. "It has been a transformative experience entering an atmosphere of empowerment at MSMU. What makes me unstoppable is my determination and independence," she says. As a filmmaker, "I would like to make films and TV shows that debunk the stereotypes of minorities. I want to see young, strong women like myself on TV!"

Film and media major

smart spirited determined confident responsible

When Vivian Slu '21 was a child, she believed that being unstoppable meant that "if somebody can do it, then I can do it." Now Slu knows it takes more than that: "It's not just about being able to do what others can do; it's about exceeding expectations, being open-minded, and most of all being yourself. Nothing is really impossible if you truly set your mind to it."

Her vision as a future lawyer is to create change in the criminal justice system, particularly in wrongful conviction cases, and to help people through social reform.

Political science and philosophy major, pre-law minor
Honors Scholar

The Mount taught Chidozie Umekwe-Odudu '20 to boldly and respectfully challenge the status quo. "I am unstoppable because I am bold and not afraid to take chances. I recognize the power within me. As a Mount Saint Mary's student, I have been challenged to let my voice be heard and to use my God-given talent to help others," she says.

Her ultimate goal is to start a nonprofit organization that will provide medical care to remote villages across the world.

Nursing major
Leadership scholar

unlimited

For Texas native Georgia Aguilar '20, being unstoppable means rising above obstacles and challenges life throws her way. "Being unstoppable means allowing yourself to move on from your mistakes, hardships, and setbacks, and to learn from those experiences so that, eventually, you can help others learn, too," says Aguilar, who plans to attend law school then work in the field of humanitarian aid.

Global politics major
Head Resident Assistant

empowerment

It takes a community to keep Nishat Salsabil '23 unstoppable. "The Mount is constantly preparing me and reminding me that nothing is impossible, and to go make a difference, to do what I desire. I am unstoppable in whatever I wish to pursue," she says. She is a humanitarian "down to the core" and someday wants to be an advocate for women struggling with discrimination or oppression.

Pre-nursing major
Senator, Student Government Association

possibilities

At the Mount, Rosa Barrera '21 discovered a deeper understanding of feminism, culture and self-care. "Knowing myself, knowing my roots, and acting accordingly makes me unstoppable," she says. Barrera's dream is to establish a holistic health center for women of color.

Applied psychology major

eadership

UNSTOPPABLE ALUMS

Share your story on social media!

What makes you unstoppable? Share your story and photos on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram and tag your post with #MSMUnstoppable.

@MountSaintMarysU

@MSMU_LA

@MSMU_LA

PROFILE OF PHILANTHROPY: BERNADETTE (GONZAQUE) ROBERT '77

'Our students are our gift to the world'

By Phillip Jordan

BERNADETTE (GONZAQUE) ROBERT '77 WAS TORN. It was 1994 and the Mount Saint Mary's alumna was pondering her next career move. On the table: a marketing director position with Frontier Airlines, a staff position in a Los Angeles mayor's office, or a return to her alma mater, where she'd previously worked in Admissions and College Relations.

She talked over the pros and cons of each job with a friend. After listening to Robert speak, the friend told her: "Bernie, you could do those other jobs. But when you talk about the Mount, there's a sparkle in your eyes."

"Well, I think she was right," Robert says with a laugh. "I came back. And I never left."

For more than 35 years now, Robert has filled a variety of leadership roles on campus. She's especially excited about her current role as associate vice president for the University's Office for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, which opened in 2016. "This office," she says, "is a testament to the University's commitment to the needs and advancement of our students and to our ability to effectively engage all our local and global communities."

As if that role wasn't enough, Robert also serves as the Mount's Title IX coordinator and university ombudsperson. And faculty, staff and students know that Robert's cell phone is on 24 hours a day — a gift to the Mount community from one of its most trusted listeners, advisers and advocates.

Now, Robert has given another gift to the Mount, one that will extend far into the future. A longtime donor, Robert recently added the University to her estate plans. The decision, she says, was an easy one.

"Our students are our gift to the world," she says. "And the only way we can ensure the world continues to receive those gifts is by contributing to the advancement of our students."

CARRYING FORWARD A LEGACY

As with most alums, Robert's bond with her alma mater is rooted in the formative experiences she enjoyed as a student. Not to mention that her children are graduates of the University, too — Jonathan from what was then the Physical Therapy Assistant program and Elise from the MFA in Film, Television and Photography.

Still, Robert says she tries to give with the future more in mind than the past.

"As an alum, you often anchor yourself to those memories from that moment in time when you were a student," she says. "So, often, that's what you're giving to. And that makes sense.

"But for me, I've had to say to myself, 'I've given to what I remember, to my heritage here. But I'm also giving to what the Mount requires right now. And I'm giving to what it will need to be in the future to remain relevant for new generations of students. Because that's what the (Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet) taught me — to always find the need and to be willing to respond to the needs of the times."

The sisters have long served as role models for Robert. Now, they inspire her giving, too. During much of her time at the Mount, Robert could look around campus and see sisters everywhere. They've been her professors, her mentors, her friends. Today, few sisters remain on the Mount's campuses. The mantle is being passed.

"Everything the sisters built here, they're leaving that legacy in our care now," Robert says. "It's on us to carry their spirit forward and ensure that it reaches new generations. If we do that, then our students can live that legacy, too."

Robert thinks a lot about what the Mount may look like going forward. And about what students' needs may be a generation from now. Her planned gift is a vote of confidence in the University's ability to keep meeting those needs.

"I believe in where we are and where we're going," Robert says."My hope is that we always remain relevant for the needs of the times. That we never become complacent. And that we always keep working toward a just society. That we remember what makes us who we are but we also see the world with fresh eyes for what we need to be. And I hope that we alums will all think: 'It starts with me.'"

HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE: Interested in including Mount Saint Mary's in your estate plans? Visit msmu.edu/plannedgiving, or contact Maria Solano at 213.477.2536 or msolano@msmu.edu.

PHOTO BY KIM FOX

An Unstoppable Campaign FOR MOUNT SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY

Our campaign continues to succeed due to the generosity of our alums and friends. **We are proud to announce that we have exceeded our $100 million goal!** But we're not stopping yet. There is more work to be done to ensure an unstoppable future for the next generations of Mount students.

Thank you to our nearly 6,000 supporters

who have contributed to the campaign to date.

Funding Progress

as of July 2019

103%
to $100 million goal

$102.5 million
Raised to date

These key funding areas still need your support:

Wellness Pavilion

as of July 2019

83%
to $35 million goal

$29 million
Raised to date

Fund for the Future

as of July 2019

92%
to $40 million goal

$36.7 million
Raised to date

AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS

Gala

Presented by the Regents Council in partnership with the Center for Global Initiatives

On Nov. 2, Mount Saint Mary's will host "Around the World in 80 Days," a fundraising gala to provide our students with meaningful global experiences.

Proceeds from this gala will enable Mount students to participate in global initiatives including semesters abroad. Today, only 13% of our graduating seniors have had the opportunity to participate in global experiences during the course of their college education. We plan to do more for our students!

MATCHING CHALLENGE

All proceeds from the gala will be matched dollar-for-dollar up to $250,000 through Nov. 30 by the Judy Kelly Page Global Fund, generously established by Mount Trustee Stephen Page to support semester-abroad opportunities. Meeting the overall goal of $500,000 will create an endowment that can support our students in perpetuity.

For more information about the event, tickets and sponsorship, contact Heather Schraeder, director of university and external events, at hschraeder@msmu.edu.

To learn more, go to

msmu.edu/gala

PROFILE OF PHILANTHROPY: SUSAN SCHANZ RAUSCH '66

Being a light to others

By Joanna Banks

IN THE EARLY '60S, Americans faced the Civil Rights movement, the intensifying Vietnam War, assassinations of powerful leaders, and the transforming Second Vatican Council. This was also the time Mount Saint Mary's became a guidepost for Latin and history major Susan Schanz Rausch '66.

During her years at the Mount, Rausch was inspired by faculty-led student discussions and seminars, participation in student government and intercollegiate activities, and association with Young Christian Students (YCS). These experiences formed lifelong beliefs and transformed her thoughts into action and activism.

"Let your light shine" was a phrase that Mount librarian Sister Catherine Anita Fitzgerald used frequently to signify the importance of living a life reflecting your values. Sister Catherine Anita mentored the YCS and encouraged Rausch and her fellow students to become actively involved with social justice issues. Susan is grateful for the late Professor Emeritus Ron Oard, PhD, who shaped her critical thinking skills, challenged her political viewpoints and ultimately became a friend attending her graduation party. She also remembers the late Professor Emeritus Jim Delahanty, who possessed a unique ability to deconstruct and reshape the cognitive process in lively classroom discussions.

Rausch graduated from Judge Memorial High School in Salt Lake City. She fondly remembers Sr. Irmalyn, and Fathers Tom Gillispie and Tom O'Neil who initiated her contact with the Mount, which resulted in the four-year scholarship that made her years at the Mount possible.

In memory of Sister Catherine Anita, her professors at the Mount and her Judge Memorial mentors, Susan and her husband Dr. Gregory Rausch have established the Sister Catherine Anita History and Social Justice Endowed Scholarship. The fund will benefit students of Judge Memorial who choose to attend Mount Saint Mary's.

Rausch, the mother of four daughters, is a former Latin and history high school teacher and a former parish liturgical coordinator and employee. She currently volunteers with The Religious Coalition for Emergency Human Needs and other organizations serving the poor and the homeless in Frederick, MD.

"I hope that whoever applies for this scholarship will learn that education is lifelong," she says. "You never stop learning, whether it's a formal education or community learning where volunteer activities connect you to other people and introduce you to new ideas."

As a history scholar, Rausch says she learned that one person can embolden others and make a difference, one light at a time. "However, it's what we do together that matters and that changes the course of history," she says.

get involved AT THE MOUNT

Many hands make light work. We invite you to join us. Mount supporters are able to make a difference in the lives of current students. How? Let us count the ways…

VOLUNTEER

MSMU alums

Do you have a little extra time and a lot of affection for Mount Saint Mary's? Become a volunteer — we can always use an extra hand!

- Tutor current students in writing or math;
- Become a Mount Alums social media ambassador;
- Volunteer at the annual President's Invitation to Serve;
- Review resumes and do mock interviews for Career Services;
- Interview prospective students for Admissions;
- Serve as a reunion class ambassador;
- And more!

Please contact Kate Fergusson, director of alumnae relations and volunteer engagement, at kfergusson@msmu.edu or 213.477.2512. Or visit alums.msmu.edu/volunteer to learn more.

Doheny Mansion docent

Docents plan, lead and assist in public and private tours of the Mansion. This opportunity is open to alums, students and friends of the University. We provide training to help docents build the knowledge, skills and confidence needed to be successful! Contact Mary Sloper at 310.373.2874 or msloper@msmu.edu to learn more.

SUPPORT

Mount Wellness

Mount Saint Mary's University has created a comprehensive wellness initiative centered on the principles of inclusion, empowerment and personal wellbeing. The new Wellness Pavilion will house special programs for healthy nutrition, physical activity, sleep health and stress reduction — everything our students need to master the art of living well. Visit msmu.edu/wellness to learn more.

Mount Fund & Mount Associates

Contributions to the Mount Fund, the annual fund at Mount Saint Mary's, provide direct support for our students and faculty. Your support makes a difference and every gift counts! Contributors of $1,000 or greater annually are recognized as Mount Associate members and receive invitations to an annual luncheon hosted by the president. Visit msmu.edu/support to learn more.

Regents Council

Members of the Regents Council volunteer to serve as ambassadors in the community. Council members pledge $2,500 or greater and attend meetings annually to meet key faculty and staff, and learn about University initiatives and activities.

The Heritage Society and planned giving

The Heritage Society, established in 1992, is comprised of alums, friends, faculty and staff who have made plans to provide future support for the University. Notify us now of a planned gift and enjoy the benefits of joining the Heritage Society!
Visit msmu.edu/plannedgiving to learn more.

JOIN US! Those who support the Mount are recognized in the annual President's Report & Honor Roll of Donors, receive the Mount Magazine, and are invited to attend special activities and events throughout the year. Please contact Megan Shockro, senior director of development, at 213.477.2875 or mshockro@msmu.edu to learn more.

1

2

3

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GATHERINGS

(1) **San Luis Obispo alum reception:** John and Teresa Mullaney '68 hosted a garden party on Aug. 3 for alums in the San Luis Obispo area. Professor Emerita Mary Sloper '62 was the event's special guest. *(2)* **Bay Area summer send-off:** The annual gathering of alums and incoming first-year students from the Bay Area was held on Aug. 4 in the home of Elvia Cowan Cabral '94 in Redwood City. *(3)* **New student orientation:** Alum volunteers helped welcome 375 students to the Mount on June 20. *(4)* **Discover Your Strengths, Unlock Your Potential:** Susette Aguiar-Possnack '99, certified Strengthscope analyst and trainer, gave a workshop on discovering strengths on April 11 at WeWork in downtown Los Angeles.

SAVE THE DATE

2019 Women's Leadership Conference
Sept. 21
Chalon Campus
Alums get special VIP treatment at this year's Women's Leadership Conference, with an exclusive lounge and special opportunities reserved just for alums.

Greece: Athens & Poros!
Oct. 3-11
Enjoy the beauty of Greece firsthand over two nights in vibrant Athens and five nights on the island of Poros.

Homecoming & Reunions
Oct. 19
Chalon Campus
Rediscover what the Mount means to you! Are you celebrating your reunion? Alumnae Relations is seeking volunteers to serve as class ambassadors!

President's Invitation to Serve
Nov. 9
Alum projects in Los Angeles; Bay Area; Orange County, Calif.; Seattle, Wash.; and Phoenix, Ariz.
Every year, the Mount community participates in a day of service.

San Diego Alum Gathering
Nov. 10
San Diego, California
Do you live in the San Diego Area? Patricia Cribbs '85 will host a San Diego alumnae gathering in her home. We'd love to see you there!

Pilgrimage to Le Puy
June 4-13, 2020
France
Follow the footsteps of our founders during this annual trip with the CSJ Institute.

alums.msmu.edu
For more information on any of these events, visit alums.msmu.edu/events or email alums@msmu.edu.

CLASS NOTES

1962 Recent recipient of the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award for "unwavering excellence in her field," **Dr. Jonniepat Mobley** credits the education she received at Mount Saint Mary's for providing her with the knowledge, encouragement and guidance to pursue a career in teaching and in the theatre. She is especially grateful to Sister Laurentia Digges and Sister St. George Skurla to whom she dedicated her first book, "NTC's Dictionary of Theatre and Drama Terms."

1964 **Diana Hauptman** and her husband David Hauptman were awarded Culver City's "Citizens of the Year." Both have spent countless hours volunteering in Culver City. David served one term on the Council and one year as mayor.

1969 ▲As **Dr. Harriet Fields** celebrates her 50th reunion as a Mount graduate this year, she is continuing to show the world that Mount alums are unstoppable! She presented her project "Grassroots Empowerment of Women as Gatekeepers of the Health of the Community" at the Global Network of Public Health Nursing (GNPHN) International Conference in May 2019 in Nairobi, Kenya. She continues her work in Rwanda, partnering with a local NGO in Kigali, focusing on women in rural villages, and developing supervisor training programs for community health workers and nurses. ● READ MORE at msmu.edu/newsroom/categories/alums.

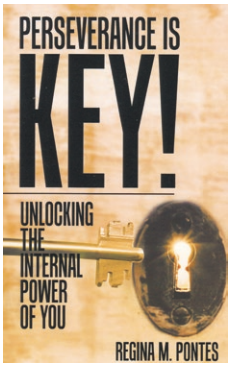
1972 **Anne (Hesch) Varner** has gone from full retirement headlong into semi-retirement by accepting a part-time position as a Congregational Health Coordinator at DUET, a nonprofit that provides support to seniors, caregivers, grandparents raising grandchildren, and to faith communities through its Foundations of Faith Community Nursing Training program. The organization helps train and support faith community nurses.

1978 **Michelle (Corpus) Hoover** is proud of her twin daughters, who are in their first year of college and made the Dean's List. Also, she is in the process of completing a certified financial planner program and establishing her own practice in the greater San Diego area.

1983 **Robert Feller** published his 10th book on Amazon. He gave a reading of his three children's books at River House Books in Carmel, California.

1984 **Marissa (Fuller) Trevett** graduated in May with a Master of Science in School Nursing from Cal State Fullerton. She currently works as a school nurse for the Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District.

1997 ◀ **Regina Pontes** received an award from the Catholic Press Association (CPA) for her debut book, "Perseverance is Key! Unlocking the Internal Power of You." Receiving third place in CPA's 2019 Book Awards healing category, her independently published book proudly takes its place among books from well-established traditional Catholic publishing houses. "Perseverance is Key" recounts overcoming tremendous odds, including four bouts with cancer. CPA judges praised the book, saying, "This personal account exudes the author's spirit of perseverance… a noteworthy contribution to healing literature."



2000 ▼In April, the American Educational Research Association honored **Jeannette Mancilla-Martinez** with its 2019 award for excellence in education research, recognizing her outstanding scholarship and service to education. She is the associate dean for graduate education and an associate professor of literacy (primary appointment) and special education (secondary appointment) at Vanderbilt University. ● READ MORE at msmu.edu/newsroom/categories/alums.

2003 ▼ **Lizette Alvarez** was named one of the Top 100 Women in Fem Tech and Health Tech by the global organization Women of Wearables. The list celebrates female founders, entrepreneurs and technologists in tech industries that focus on women and women's health. Alvarez, No. 56 on the list, is the COO of Health Core Possibilities, a company applying artificial intelligence technology to healthcare tools and services.

2004 **Nancy Aguilar** is currently pursuing a doctorate in educational leadership at Cal State Los Angeles. She celebrated her first wedding anniversary

in August. • ▼ **Sarah Moe Meyers** has been elected to serve a three-year term on Park University's Board of Trustees. Meyers, a resident of Kansas City, Mo., is the federal affairs manager at Hallmark Cards, where she is responsible for representing the company on federal issues with Congress, government agencies and trade associations. She also serves as president of Hallmark's political action committee.

2010 ▲ **Martha (Sanchez) Escandon** now serves as the executive director at East Los Angeles Community Youth Center. • **Tricia Pauline Velena** is graduating from Boston University's School of Public Health with a Master of Public Health. She hopes to address the social determinants of health and inequities by planning and designing programs in under-resourced communities.

2013 ▼ **Alejandra Ocean**, MBA, celebrated the grand opening of her new business, Ocean of Possibilities Preschool in Downey, California. Ocean of Possibilities is the city's First Reggio Emilia-inspired preschool.

IN MEMORIAM

'48 Margaret "Peggy" Wylie Jackson
'50 Barbara O'Callaghan
'50 Elyse Baxter Crisfield
'51 Mary O'Connor
'56 Joan Schneider French
'57 Jacqueline Bigelow Stevens
'60 Claudia Birdsong Ramsey
'63 Judith Mary Sulaitis
'66 Sister Stephen Elizabeth Daly, CSJ
'68 Husband of Sandra Mann Lambert
'69 Mother of Patty Desmarais
'69 Husband of Mary Anne Burroughs Doms
'75 Husband of Patricia Pitts
'78 Husband of Paula Griego
'85 Irene Dadourian Soumakian
'03 Maria Ochoa

Remembrances

Sister Thomas Bernard MacConnell, CSJ
Former professor and director of Spiritual Life Program
1926-2019

Sr. Thomas Bernard MacConnell was a member of the English faculty in the 1960s and 1970s and was director of the Spiritual Life Program in the 1980s at the Doheny Campus, which trained and certified spiritual directors for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. She was one of the last CSJs to reside in the Doheny Mansion, where she lived for more than 30 years. Her ministries were many and varied including teaching at all levels, leadership roles in the congregation and province, and founding and directing the Spirituality Center for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles.

Sister Patricia Krommer, CSJ, '58
CSJ Institute supporter
1932-2019

Sr. Patricia Krommer, CSJ, '58 was a great supporter of the CSJ Institute, ministered in elementary education and dedicated her life to the promotion of human rights. Her early years of ministry were in elementary education. She found her passion working for justice which involved her in many levels of local and international government. She lived in house No. 22 at the Doheny Campus for the last several years.

Christopher E. Turner
Regent and former faculty
1933-2019

Chris Turner, dedicated Mount faculty member, co-taught with his wife, Janet Robinson, PhD, the Principles of Finance course in the Weekend/Evening College, lectured in the MBA program and served on the Regents Council. Chris served as partner and president at Keystone Mortgage Corp. for more than five decades. He was hired by Sister Catherine Therese Knoop, CSJ, then chair of the business department, in the early 1960s, and through the years became a leader and trusted colleague at the Mount.

HOMECOMING & REUNIONS 2019

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19

LIGHTS, CAMERA, PARTY!

Please join us for Homecoming and reunion festivities! Reconnect with your classmates, friends, and alums across generations while reminiscing about your days at the Mount. Regardless of your reunion year, we encourage all alums, family, and friends to attend Homecoming & Reunions and help us honor the classes of '44, '49, '54 ,'59, '64, '69, '74, '79, '84, '89, '94, '99, '04, '09, and '14.

SCHEDULE

8:30 a.m. **Spotlight on Nursing: 70th Anniversary Breakfast**
Celebrate 70 years of nursing at Mount Saint Mary's and honor the legacy of Sister Rebecca Doan, CSJ, RN, PhD, founder of the Mount's Nursing Department.

10:30 a.m. **Founder's Day Mass and Golden Grad Society Induction**
Join us for this special Homecoming tradition and witness the class of 1969 become the newest members of the Golden Grad Society!

11:30 a.m. **Welcome Reception**
Snap some photos, shop the bookstore, and catch up with your classmates before lunch!

12:30 p.m. **Celebration of Stars Luncheon**
Celebrate our very own stars with the **Outstanding Alum Awards Ceremony** and **Reunion Slideshow**.

Outstanding Alum Awards

- **Professional Achievement:** Mary Breden '73
- **Service to the University:** Suzanne Hoffman '84
- **Rising Star:** Naomi Miguel '09

2:00 p.m. **Encore Celebrations!**
When completing your registration, choose ONE of the optional activities to continue the celebration.

Paramount Pictures Studio Tour
Paramount Pictures
Join us for a private guided walking tour of Hollywood's most iconic movie studio! Additional fee, space is limited.

How the West Was Won: The Story of the CSJs in Los Angeles
Charles Willard Coe Memorial Library
Learn the historical beginnings of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet in Los Angeles and their lasting legacy across California.

Back to the Future: Your One-Stop Shop for Estate Planning
Humanities Building, Room 202
Regardless of your age and income, learn how to maximize your assets to take care of your family and favorite charities.

INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION
ALUMS.MSMU.EDU/HOMECOMING2019

REGISTER ONLINE TODAY!

The first baccalaureate nursing graduates of the Mount, Class of 1952, from left: Mary Ishida, Vivian Burgess, Maureen Boylan, Ruby Mae Bunyard, Marie Astier. Not shown is the sixth graduate, Sister Mary Frances Rebel, CSJ. Right, nursing students at their formal capping rite in May 1954.

The claim to BSN fame

By long tradition, the Mount claims to have conferred California's first Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing in 1952, when five laywomen and one CSJ sister completed the program founded by Sister Rebecca Doan, CSJ, in 1949.

Less well-known is the fact that there was something of an arms race under way in California. Mount Saint Mary's and its close neighbor UCLA were in tight competition to start a BSN through the late 1940s and early 1950s, followed by other schools up and down the state. Many have claimed "first."

Why the urgency for the BSN? Shortly after the end of World War II in 1945, the profession undertook a critical self-study, and a highly influential report in 1948 by social anthropologist Esther Lucile Brown, PhD, analyzed the serious issues confronting the profession.

The traditional on-site hospital apprenticeship — the kind the Mount started offering in the late 1920s — was becoming inadequate for the postwar world. Alarmingly, a new focus on accreditation revealed that many of the smallest hospital programs were turning out poorly trained nurses. Meanwhile, discoveries in medicine required nurses to have much deeper grounding in the sciences than ever before. Graduates needed to work on an equal footing with college-educated colleagues among administrators and doctors, almost all of them men.

Nevertheless, Brown concluded, the future was bright with the prospect of more nursing specializations, the development of nursing theory (presaging Sister Callista Roy's later work) and the growth of postgraduate opportunities, all of which required the forces of an academic institution to bring to reality.

From their running start after the Brown Report both MSMU and UCLA ramped up their programs. On September 11, 1949, Mount faculty unanimously approved the BSN, and the following January Sister Rebecca took it to the California Board of Nursing Examiners. Interim accreditation was granted less than three weeks later, and national accreditation was in place by graduation in June 1952.

Perhaps because it was bigger and more bureaucratic UCLA fell behind. It wasn't until June 1954 that the first eight Bruins received their coveted BSN degrees.

— Victoria McCargar, University archivist

The University Archives and Special Collections thanks nurse-author Cynthia Broze for her personal quest to document the first BSN. It can be found in Chapter 8 of her book "Nurses of Los Angeles: Uncapping the Mystery" (Los Angeles: Semper Publishing, 2010).

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CENTER FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

2019 WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Sept. 21, 2019 8:30 A.M. TO 4 P.M.
Chalon Campus

#BestBoldYou

- Discover tools to enhance your personal and professional life.
- Gain access to successful industry leaders.
- Connect with like-minded professional women.
- Get inspired to be the #BestBoldYou!

msmu.edu/wlc

SAVE THE DATE

Sept. 21: Women's Leadership Conference Chalon Campus • **Sept. 27: Athenian Day** Chalon Campus • **Oct. 2: DPT Graduation** Doheny Campus • **Oct. 5: Doheny Mansion Public Tour** Doheny Campus • **Oct. 19: Homecoming & Reunions** Chalon Campus • **Oct. 26-27: Writers Conference** Doheny Campus • **Nov. 2: Around the World in 80 Days Gala** Taglyan Complex, Los Angeles • **Nov. 9: President's Invitation to Serve** Los Angeles and other cities • **Dec. 1: Christmas Magic at the Mansion** Doheny Campus